

Application No.: 10/083,851

Atty Docket No. 4539-CA

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

Applicants appreciate that the Office Action considers dependent claims 13 and 18-24 to be patentable.

The Office Action rejected all presently-pending claims 7-14 and 18-24. Specifically, the Office Action objected claims 8, 10, 20 and 24 because of informalities. The Office Action also rejected claims 8, 13-14 and 18-24 under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite. Moreover, the Office Action rejected claims 7-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Kagawa et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5,648,107). Reconsideration and allowance of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Office Action Objections

Claims 8, 10, 20 and 24 are objected because of informalities. Currently, claims 8, 10, 20 and 24 are amended to overcome the informalities.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections**Rejections under 35 USC§112**

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 USC§112, first paragraph. The Office Action objected the enablement of the description. In fact, the description of claim 14 is not clear according to the application. Thus, the Applicants amend claim 14 for clarity to overcome the informalities.

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Claims 8, 13-14 and 18-24 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Claims 8 and 20 are amended according to the pg. 7, lines 8-10 of the specification. Claims 13, 22 and 24 are amended to overcome the indefinite.

It is believed that the foregoing amendments add no new matter to the present application. Applicants believe that these amendments place the claims in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Response to Claims Rejections under 35 USC§103

Claims 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Kagawa.

As will be fully explained below, the Kagawa does not disclose the subject matter defined in claims 7-12 as proposed herein.

Independent claim 7 states:

Claim 7 (previously amended) A method for processing a film, comprising:

providing a film;

providing a buffer layer between the film and a transfer; and

performing an impression step to form a plurality of protuberant structures on the film, wherein the impression step is performed by a squeezer including an Impresser and the transfer, the impresser having a plurality of grain projections formed thereon in a predetermined pattern for impressing the film placed between the impresser and the transfer, so as to form protuberant structures on the film in an area corresponding to the predetermined pattern.

(Emphasis Added)

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Independent claim 7 is allowable for at least the reasons that Kagawa et al. at least do not disclose, teach, or suggest the features “a plurality of protuberant structures on the film” described above.

According to FIG. 6 and col. 15, line 64 to col. 16, line 3 of Kagawa, the discription that “The result is, as in FIGS. 2 and 6, a porous film 17 in which a large number of non-through pores 16 are regularly formed in the elongated film 13 in correspondence with the grating-like protruding pattern 11” is disclosed. The film 17 having a large number of non-through pores 16 disclosed in Kagawa does not have a protuberant structures like the protuberant 14 and 16 shown in FIG. 4 of the application.

Thus, Kagawa does not anticipate claim 7. The withdrawal of the rejections and the allowance of claim 7 are therefore earnestly solicited.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 7 and 13 patently define over the prior art, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 8-12 and 14, 18-24 patently define over the prior art as well, wherein claims 13 and 18-24 are consider to be patentable.

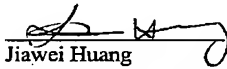
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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all pending claims 7-14 and 18-24 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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